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BOOK REVIEWS.

All book reviews are by the editor in chief unless otherwise expressly stated.

Street Railway Reports Annotated. Reporting the Electric Railway and Street Railway Decisions of the Federal and State Courts in The United States, with Combined Annotations to Notes in Volumes 1 to 6 Inclusive. Edited by Melvin Bender and Harold J. Hinman of the Albany Bar. Volume 6. Albany, New York. Matthew Bender & Company. 1910. Price, \$5.00.

The sixth volume of this series brings cases in which litigation concerning street railways are reported, down to a late date. The value of a series of the sort can be seen at a glance. To collect and put together the decisions of the courts of last resort upon questions concerning corporations, so that one does not have to hunt through hundreds of volumes for a single case is a work of the greatest value to a lawyer engaged in this class of litigation. There are already series of reports in which cases concerning corporations and cases concerning railways are treated to the exclusion of all other matters. Street railways have now become in common use and questions of law arising from their use are of constant occurrence. The importance, therefore, in a busy age of grouping such cases together and thoroughly annotating them cannot be overestimated. The work of these volumes is well done, the annotation thorough, and they cannot fail to be of the greatest usefulness.

Ethical Obligations of the Lawyer, By Gleason L. Archer, Dean of the Suffolk School of Law, Author of "Law Office and Court Procedure." Buckram. Price \$3.00 net delivered.

It is always a pleasure to handle any book which comes from the publishing house of Little, Brown & Company. One can always be assured of good workmanship as far as the material structure of the volume is concerned. So the volume above, bearing the imprint of this well-known firm, is a pleasure to hold and to read. Nor is the pleasure in perusing it confined to the material side. Nearly every bar association in the Union has been taking up of late years the question of Legal Ethics, and no question deserves more thoughtful care at the hands of the profession. In this commercial age the young lawyer coming to the bar in nine times out of ten has an idea that the sole purpose of the practice of law is to make a living for the individual lawyer, and in order to do this the methods of the mercantile world are available to him. Should such a belief become universal, then the end of the bar as a high and no-

ble profession would not be far away. Mr. Archer has conferred a plain and distinct benefit upon the profession by this excellent work. In main addressed to the lawyers, it sets out in clear and plain language the duty of the lawyer from an ethical standpoint. He does not leave untouched any question which arises in the duty of the lawyer whether from the moral standpoint or the long established customs and traditions of the profession. The book is one which should be read by every young lawyer and every man intending to enter the study of law. Most men if they can plainly see their duty will try to do it, and no man who reads this book can hesitate for one moment when questions of the moral side of his profession are presented to him. A part of the book is addressed almost as much to laymen as to lawyers and we believe that a vast amount of good could be done if this book could be put in the hands of every man who ever has had or ever will have legal business. We cannot commend it too highly.

The Federal Penal Code, in Force January 1, 1910, Together with Other Statutes Having Penal Provisions in Force December 1, 1908, Annotated by George F. Tucker, Ph. D., Joint author of "Gould and Tucker's Notes on the United States Statutes," and Charles W. Blood, of the Boston Bar. Law Canvas. Little, Brown & Co., Boston, Mass. Price, \$5.00 net.

The Congress, by an act of March 4th, 1909, passed an act providing that the penal laws of the United States should be codified. Mr. Tucker has taken this codification and has carefully annotated it with quotations from and references to every decision bearing upon any section. The changes in the criminal laws up to the present time are pointed out and the decisions of the courts upon these laws are brought down to May 1st, 1910. A valuable appendix is added, referring to the laws of a general nature permanent in character in force December 1st, 1908, having penal provisions not properly separable from the administrative provisions not contained in the criminal code but impressed in the general revision of the laws of the United States. These references are also fully annotated.

To those engaged in practice on the criminal side of the Federal Court this volume will prove invaluable. The work is full, carefully done, and like everything that comes from the publishing house is mechanically as near perfect as a book can be.